



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

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Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at

gscoc@deq.virginia.gov.

Water Reuse Program

Although the newspapers call it a "water recycling" program, it is really a program designed to reuse waste water from a sewage plant. There may be several benefits to implementing such a program in the Commonwealth.

- ✓ Customers could pay less for recycled water than they would for drinking water
- ✓ Less waste water would go into public waterways which could potentially really help with the health of the Chesapeake Bay
- ✓ Less fresh water would be needed, thus helping to preserve our reserve of fresh water resources
- ✓ The less groundwater needed the more it could help Virginians to avoid serious drought conditions.

Virginia is considering a two-tiered system for water reuse. The highest level of wastewater would be used for activities classified as having limited human contact, for example, irrigation of parks, cemeteries, golf courses and for non-residential toilets, car washes and air conditioning. The lower level tier for water reuse would be for dust control, industrial cooling, and livestock watering.

The **Hampton Roads Sanitation District** is presently conducting a water recycling project to promote the technology and test the advantages of such a program. They are optimistic about the results that they are getting with reusing water on golf courses. The grass, when compared to other areas that are watered with regular tap water, appears to be thicker and less likely to succumb to diseases than turf watered with regular water.

DEQ is expecting draft regulations to be considered in December with a completed permitting system in place by the spring of 2007. Contact Ellen Gilinsky at (804) 698-4375 or egilinsky@deq.virginia.gov.

Easy to Use Recycling Directory Added to Web Site

Check out the new website for **the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA)**! The new web site design features a Recycling Wizard which citizens can use to find ways that many household items can be reused or where they can be taken to be recycled.

Since CVWMA serves a large metropolitan area, citizens can find out about services only in their area by going to the local information section. www.cvwma.com

Did You Know?

- ✓ The performance and accounting reports are needed in order for localities to qualify for the litter prevention and recycling grants. Performance and Accounting Reports must be postmarked by **August 31, 2006**. To download a performance and accounting form, go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/forms.html>
- ✓ The Litter Prevention and Recycling Fund Board met on August 9, 2006. DEQ staff presented several applications that were postmarked after the June 30, 2006 deadline to the Board for consideration. The Board reaffirmed that localities that submitted late applications or submit late performance and accounting reports will not be eligible to receive grants in the present FY 07 grant cycle.
- ✓ The 1st Annual Virginia Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Conference will be held October 11 – 13, 2006 in Roanoke. Go to: <http://www.conted.vt.edu/va-ems/registration.html>
- ✓ The 2006 Virginia Environmental Education Conference and 2nd Annual Professional Development Meeting for Virginia Naturally Partners "Racing to Improve the Environment" is scheduled for September 19 – 20 at the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. Completed Registration Forms must be submitted no later than August 25, 2006. Contact Amanda Archer at (540) 721-2759 or aarcher@vt.edu. To view the agenda, go to: <http://www.vanaturally.com/eeconference.html>
- ✓ A Directory for Construction and Demolition Materials in the Metropolitan Washington area is available as a booklet, can be downloaded as a PDF file, or may be database searched. Go to: <http://www.mwcog.org/buildersrecyclingguide/download.htm>
- ✓ The **City of Harrisonburg** provides residential curbside pickup of used motor oil. Residents are asked to put the used motor oil in non-breakable containers with screw-top lids. The residents put the containers next to their recycling bins and the City picks it up. The City collects several hundred gallons of oil per year thus keeping it out of the storm drains and keeps the ground water clean. Contact Mecki Shifflett at (540)433-6800 or mekis@ci.harrisonburg.va.us
- ✓ The **Fairfax County** School Board voted to begin a mandatory recycling program in the schools this fall. The School system is preparing to award a new waste management contract which will allow Fairfax County Schools to recycle all paper products, plastic, aluminum and glass containers. Contact Pamela F. Gratton at

Recycling Lines Continued

Oyster Shell Reuse to Build Reefs in Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach is working to restore artificial reefs in the Lynnhaven and Elizabeth Rivers by using grant money from the sale of the state's Chesapeake Bay license-plate fund. The program is called Save Oyster Shell. The Lynnhaven River 2007 environment group has eight seafood restaurants set aside empty oyster shells and there are two public drop-off centers in parking lots across from the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center and Bubba's Seafood off of Shore Drive for the public to contribute their shells towards the project. Two workers then clean remnants off of the shells then they are taken to the landfill off of Centerville Turnpike to dry and disinfect in the sun. When the shells are ready, they are reused to create artificial reefs which will help to revive oyster populations in the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation intends to launch a similar reuse program for oyster shells in Norfolk and Williamsburg in the fall. The Foundation believes that by building smaller reefs near eroding shorelines will help the newly planted marsh grasses and wetlands.

For more information about the Lynnhaven River project, visit their web site at

<http://www.diainc.com/Lynn/newsite/images/inthenews.html>

To learn more about the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and their oyster restoration efforts, go to:

<http://www.cbf.org/site/PageServer?pagename=homev3>

Implementing Recycling Programs is "On the Air" in Loudoun County

"Inside **Loudoun County**" is a 30-minute cable television program that airs Mondays and Fridays at 7 and 9 p.m. on Adelphia's Government Access Channel 2. The first segment of the show is about preserving and rehabilitating existing affordable housing in the county. The second segment is about recycling requirements for businesses in Loudoun County. Kate Glass and Ann Sanford of the Office of Solid Waste Management are featured. They discuss ways that county staff can assist businesses of all sizes to implement recycling programs. The show can also be viewed on Loudoun County's webcast system by going to www.loudoun.gov/webcast. Kate Glass, the Loudoun County Recycling Manager, may be contacted by calling (703) 737-8769 or kglass1@loudoun.gov

EPA Promotes an Easy Recycle on the Go Program

The EPA recognizes that many empty cans and bottles are generated at tailgating events so they have created a program called "Recycle on the Go." The purpose of Recycle on the Go is to capture the cans and bottles at tailgate areas and at public venues by making recycling convenient for the public. The EPA is striving towards a 35% national recycling rate by 2008 and one of the means to get there is to encourage more entities that hold large public events to collect the cans and bottles generated at these events. Recycle on the Go events were successfully held in Pittsburgh at a baseball all star game in July, in the spring for the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C. and in February in Hawaii for an NFL Pro ball tailgating event. The EPA has provided a checklist for implementing a successful recycling collection event. To learn more about Recycle on the Go go to: <http://www.epa.gov/rcc/onthego/>

Cans for Cash – City Recycling Challenge

Keep America Beautiful, Inc and the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Novelis are expanding their national contest "Cans for Cash – City Recycling Challenge." Twelve municipalities will win \$5,000 and four will win \$2,500 in recycling awards. The contest runs from September 15 – 30, 2006. There are four divisions based upon population and awards are given in three recycling categories:

- ✓ Most cans collected
- ✓ Most innovative idea
- ✓ Partnering with a local KAB affiliate

The winners will be announced on America Recycles Day which is November 15. Contact Susan Jarvis at (202) 861-6760 or go to <http://www.usmayors.org/mwma/> to learn more about this program.

EPA's Make a Difference Campaign – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle and Planning an Environmental Day

The EPA is running a "Make a Difference Campaign" with the purpose of providing educational tools to teachers to teach ways that people can reduce waste, reuse materials, make compost and conserve natural resources. The guide to planning a hands-on Environmental Day can be found in their guide titled; [Make a Difference in Your School – A How-to Guide for Engaging Students in Resource Conservation and Waste Reduction](#) (Document # EPA-530-k-06-003) Call (800) 490-9198 or go to www.epa.gov/epaoswer/education/mad.htm to learn more about the campaign and order the guide.

Environmentally Friendly Computers on the Horizon

According to the EPA, environmentally friendly computers should be available within the next few years to large volume purchasers thanks to manufactures like Dell and HP which making their equipment compliant with the standards of the Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT). These computers will be better for the environment by having less toxic waste and will be easier to upgrade and recycle. They also meet the government's Energy Star guidelines for efficiency.

The EPA is estimating that over the next five years, the purchases of EPEAT registered computers will result in the reductions of:

- ✓ More than 13 million pounds of hazardous waste
- ✓ More than 3 million pounds of non-hazardous waste
- ✓ More than 600,000 MWh of energy – enough to power 6 million homes.

For more information about EPEAT go to: www.epa.gov/epp/pubs/products/epeat.htm

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